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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 8

THE REALIZATION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Mr. Alfonso Martinez, Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Eide, Mr. El-Hajjé,
Mrs. Forero Ucros, Mr. Guissé, Mr. Joinet and Mrs. Warzazi:
draft resolution

1995/... Human rights and extreme poverty

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1992/11 of 21 February 1992, 1993/13 of 26 February 1993, 1994/12 of 25 February 1994 and 1995/16 of 24 February 1995 and its own resolution 1992/27 of 27 August 1992 concerning the execution by the Sub-Commission of a study on human rights and extreme poverty and the appointment of Mr. Leandro Despouy as Special Rapporteur on that question,

Recalling its resolution 1994/41 of 26 August 1994, in which it took note with appreciation of the first interim report of the Special Rapporteur,

Welcoming the holding at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 12 to 14 October 1994, of the seminar on the topic "Extreme poverty and the denial of human rights", which for the first time enabled persons living in extreme poverty to publicly express their observations on the matter,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the second interim report on human rights and extreme poverty (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/15) prepared by the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Leandro Despouy;

2. Commends the Special Rapporteur for having included in his report testimony and observations by the most destitute persons, since this brings greater awareness of the living conditions of those in extreme poverty and a better understanding of the link between extreme poverty and human rights;

3. Welcomes the approach proposed by the Special Rapporteur in his report;

4. Expresses the wish that the consultation undertaken by the Special Rapporteur should be continued, and invites Governments, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to answer the questionnaire prepared by him;

5. Requests the Special Rapporteur to submit to it, at its forty-eighth session, a final report focusing on the results of his consultation with persons living in extreme poverty and persons working alongside them, and taking account of the conclusions and relevant data emerging from the World Summit for Social Development in March 1995 and the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing in 1995, and of the activities to be undertaken in 1996, which the General Assembly, in its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, proclaimed International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Special Rapporteur the human and material resources necessary for the fulfilment of his mandate;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to arrange for the presentation of the final report on the study on human rights and extreme poverty in 1996, in the context of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, to be the occasion for an event involving the participation of representatives of persons and families living in extreme poverty and representatives of non-governmental organizations working alongside them.